

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 IO-13
ACDA-07 MCT-01 DHA-02 /109 W
-----11007Z 034671 /23

R 101457Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4429
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 3672

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ET, MOPS, PINS
SUBJECT: EDU COMMANDER REPORTED KILLED IN VICINITY OF HUMERA

REF: (A) ADDIS ABABA 2372; (B) ADDIS ABABA 2445;
(C) ADDIS ABABA 2691

SUMMARY: JUNE 10 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED FOR FIRST TIME ON OPERATIONS OF "GESIT ARMY" FORCE IN GONDAR REGION. PRO-VISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED KILLING OF MAJOR DR. TEFERI TEKLE-HAIMANOT, ALLEGEDLY "OVER-ALL COMMANDER OF ETHIOPIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION (EDU) CRIMINAL BANDITS IN HUMERA AND SURROUNDING AREAS." PMAC SPOKESMAN CLAIMED "GESIT ARMY" HAS FULL COOPERATION OF PEOPLE IN HUMERA VICINITY. END SUMMARY.

1. IN FIRST PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF STEPPED-UP MILITARY ACTIVITIES BEING CARRIED OUT IN GONDAR REGION, JUNE 10
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ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED "GESIT ARMY" PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN CAMPAIGN TO LIQUIDATE EDU AND OTHER COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES. PMAC SPOKESMAN STATED ALLEGED EDU OVERALL COMMANDER FOR HUMERA AREA, MAJOR DR. TEFERI TEKLE-HAIMANOT KILLED AND COMMANDER OF "BANDIT GROUP" IN HUMERA, LT. BAYU GIDAY, CAPTURED. MAJOR DR. TEFERI REPORTEDLY AMONG THOSE WHO FLED COUNTRY FOLLOW-

ING "ERUPTION OF ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION". (EMBASSY BIO FILES LIST TEFERI AS PHD HISTORY 1970 FROM KANSAS STATE, WHO HAD CONTACTED FORMER EMBOFF IN NAIROBI, MARCH 1976. AT TIME, TEFERI CLAIMED HE PLANNED TO RETURN TO ETHIOPIA TO WAGE GUERRILLA WAR AGAINST LEADERSHIP. HE ALSO EXPRESSED DESIRE TO SETTLE IN U.S. AS TEACHER.) TEFERI UNDOUBTEDLY EDU MEMBER, BUT EMBASSY UNABLE CONFIRM IF HE "OVERALL COMMANDER" FOR HUMERA AREA. LT. BAYU NOT LISTED IN EMBASSY FILES.

2. PMAC SPOKESMAN STATED GESIT ARMY IN PROCESS OF CLEANSING REGION WITH DETERMINATION AND CONDUCTING BRIEFINGS TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION PROGRAM AND REVOLUTION'S PROGRESS. SPOKESMAN ALSO CLAIMED FORCE ENJOYED FULL COOPERATION OF PEOPLE IN AREA. HE CONCLUDED, GESIT ARMY ACTIVITIES IN GONDAR REGION WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC FROM TIME TO TIME.

3. COMMENT: WHILE OPERATIONS AGAINST EDU STRONGHOLDS IN GONDAR REGION HAVE BEEN MUCH RUMORED ABOUT RECENTLY, IT NOW CONFIRMED PUBLICLY. ANNOUNCEMENT CAREFULLY WORDED TO GIVE IMPRESSION GESIT ARMY IN IMMEDIATE VINCITY HUMERA. IT BELIEVED THOSE CONDUCTING OPERATION ARE REGULAR TROOPS SENT TO GONDAR OVER PAST SIX WEEKS, AND PEASANT MILITIA STILL BEING TRAINED OUTSIDE ADDIS ABABA NOT YET INVOLVED. THERE IS SPECULATION PEASANT MILITIA WILL BE USED TO MOVE IN AND SECURE AREAS RETAKEN BY REGULAR TROOPS RATHER THAN TO FIGHT

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IN VANGUARD. SUDANESE DIPLOMAT ALSO REPORTS TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED AS FAR NORTH AS TEKAZZE RIVER AT GONDAR-ERITREAN BORDER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, DEATHS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ADDIS ABABA 2372, 77 ADDIS ABABA 2445, 77 ADDIS ABABA 2691
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2206747
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDU COMMANDER REPORTED KILLED IN VICINITY OF HUMERA
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, SOPN, ET, EDU, PMAC, (TEFERI TEKLE-HAIMANOT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e709ee7f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009